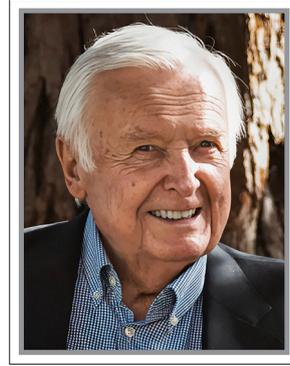


Obituary for Walter Brantner

*„What one carries deep within one’s heart
can never be lost to death.“*



Walter Brantner, a beloved husband, brother, father, stepfather, father-in-law, and grandfather, was born on December 13, 1940, in Krems as the eldest child of Ida and Walter Brantner Sr. Despite the challenging wartime and post-war years, his parents gave him and his younger sister Waltraud a wonderful childhood alongside their entrepreneurial commitments. Walter cherished his parents and his sister throughout his entire life.

After completing compulsory school in Krems, Walter Brantner began an apprenticeship as a mechanic at the Kremser company Zwicker and successfully completed it at the vocational school in Stockerau in 1958. However, he soon chose a different professional path and joined the transport industry and the family business, Brantner. His family, his work, and the joy of being in the company of relatives and friends were always of great importance to him.

Through his courageous entrepreneurial spirit and tireless dedication to his company, he transformed a small business into a major corporate group, which today operates in the fields of transport, logistics, waste management, recycling, and real estate across five countries, employing nearly 3,000 people. With foresight and vision, he transferred the company’s leadership to his son Bernd Brantner in the early 2000s, who continued to expand the business successfully and establish market leadership in various countries.

What especially distinguished Walter—and what remains deeply felt in the company to this day—was his extraordinary closeness to people. For him, humans always stood at the center. Whether workers, employees, managers, or long-standing partners, he met everyone at eye level, with genuine interest and sincere appreciation.

He was also a source of personal inspiration for many. His path, his attitude, and his humanity left a lasting impression. Up until 2025, company founder Walter Brantner visited the company almost daily, traveling to various sites to meet employees in person. He also remained a trusted advisor and supporter to his son until the very end, while gradually stepping back into a more supervisory role—allowing him to spend more time with his family and friends.

In his private life, he found happiness in his first marriage to Hannelore, a teacher. They married in 1972 and welcomed two children: daughter Birgit in 1974 and son Bernd in 1977. When his beloved wife passed away far too soon in 1996, Walter, as a busy entrepreneur, suddenly also became a single father. He managed this difficult phase of life with remarkable strength.

In 1999, he married his second wife, Sonja Reinberg, and together they formed a loving patchwork family. His four grandchildren—Niklas, Moritz, Marie, and Felipa—later completed his happiness.

Walter also enjoyed a large circle of friends, and one of his greatest passions was hunting and spending convivial time together. He also loved traveling and shared a unique, heartfelt sense of humor with his wife Sonja.

His daughter Birgit recalls: *“Dad was my hero, my rescuer in times of need, my open ear, and my finder of solutions. My dad was not always perfect, but pretty close—and the space he leaves behind in my life and in the lives of my children will forever be filled with love and pride.”*

His unmistakable character is captured in the personal words of his son Bernd: *“My father was not only a successful and forward-thinking entrepreneur but above all a great family man. His presence, his laughter, his kindness, his sociability, and his generosity—truly everything about him—were unique. He was always my mentor, my best friend, my role model, and above all, the most important person in my life, who always stood by my side.”*

Walter Brantner passed away on March 7, 2026, at the age of 85, after a short illness, surrounded by his family.

His family will forever keep his memory alive with deep love.

May he rest in peace.

Krems an der Donau, March 2026